REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-15 are pending. Claims 1, 3, 6, 11, and 15 are amended. The amended claims are fully supported by the specification (e.g., see paragraph 0008). No new matter has been added.

Claim 15 is amended to incorporate the subject matter of dependent claim 16. Claim 16 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1, 2, 6, 11, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 in light of Tajima (U.S. Pat. No. 6,885,156).

Claim 1 recites a display device comprising in part a conductor which "includes a connection part extending from said conductor and onto which a connector is removably connectable for supplying the accelerating voltage". In other words, the "connection part" is a constituent part of the conductor which extends from the conductor, a removable connector may be connected and disconnected to the connection part, and the removable connector is used with the high-voltage wire that supplies the accelerating voltage.

Claim 1 is not obvious in view of Tajima, because the combination proposed by the Examiner lacks a claimed feature: the connection part. Claim 1's connection part is included in the conductor and extends from the conductor, an illustrative embodiment of which is shown in Figure 1, element 145. Tajima clearly shows only a conductor without the connection part (Fig. 1, element 100). Thus, Tajima does not teach or even suggest the claimed "connection part which extends from said conductor".

Further, claim 1 is not obvious in view of Tajima, because Tajima teaches away from the connection part. The connection part is a constituent part of the conductor. As noted above, Tajima does not have a connection part. Instead, Tajima uses a lead-in wire (Fig. 1, element 101) that is separate from the connection lead (Fig. 1, element 100) for electrical contact. In fact, Tajima relies upon "Ag paste and [a] mechanical spring" to "ensure the connection between the lead-in wire 101 and connection lead 100" (col. 10, line 64 to col. 11,

line 1). Thus, Tajima does not teach or even suggest the claimed "connection part which extends from said conductor".

Lastly, claim 1 is not obvious in view of Tajima, because the combination proposed by the Examiner is not suggested by Tajima. It is not obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Tajima's "contact plate" with the high voltage lead wire to arrive at the claim 1's connector. Tajima teaches a "contact plate that... is electrically connected to the independent wire lead-in portion..." (col. 21, lines 57-60). The other end of Tajima's contact plate is connected to an "earth cable" (col. 22, lines 5-7), in other words to GROUND. Tajima does not expressly or impliedly suggested that this ground "contact plate" scheme is viable for high voltage applications (i.e., "receiving a potential applied from an external high voltage source." at col 10, lines 49-50). In fact, one of ordinary skill in the art would not at all be motivated to use Tajima's ground "contact plate" as a high voltage lead wire, because of potential safety and electromagnetic interference issues. The ground contact plate is exposed and uninsulated (Fig. 12, element 1100) and is comprised of only a thin plate (thickness of 0.2 mm to 0.5 mm)" (col. 21, line 62). While this may be acceptable practice for a ground connection, it is not designed or suited to carry "a potential of ten and several kV" (col. 19, line 62). Therefore, Tajima does not teach or even suggest the claimed "connector [which] is removably connectable for supplying the accelerating voltage".

Independent claims 6 and 15 contain similar limitations and should be allowed by the same rationale.

For any of the foregoing reasons, the §103 rejections of the claims are believed to be overcome.

The drawings are objected to, because they do not indicate "a driving line" of original claim 11 and "a signal" of original claim 15. Likewise original claim 11 is objected to, because "a driving line" lacks antecedent basis in the specification. Claim 11 is amended to change "a driving line" to "a driving wire" for consistency with the language of the specification.

Claim 15 is amended to remove reference to "a signal". The drawing objection is believed to be overcome.

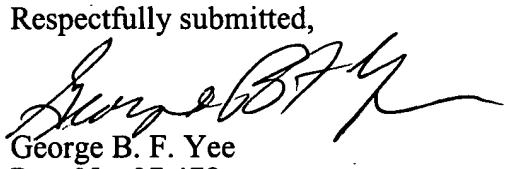
For any of the foregoing reasons, the objections to the drawings and specification are believed to be overcome.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



George B. F. Yee
Reg. No. 37,478

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 415-576-0300
GBFY:BCS:cmm
60871526 v1